



**Inspired Teaching**  
Demonstration School

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**MINUTES (Approved May 8, 2023)**

March 8, 2023  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. ET

**In attendance:** Morris Clarke, Lucy Newton, Sundai Riggins, Pete Weber, Rusty Wilson, Mary Pitts, Aleta Margolis (departed at 6:22pm)

**Absent:** Michelle Lerner, Andrea Browning, Maureen Ingram

**Staff:** Kate Keplinger

**Minutes by:** Joanne Irby, Board Secretary

**Called to Order: 6:12 pm**

**Welcoming New Member:** The Chair and Board welcomes Mary Pitts to her first Board meeting. She shared a bit about her background, including serving as the IFA President several years ago, and being the parent of twins in the middle school

**Demonstration Committee Update:**

- Committee has been working with Dr. Riggins and Monisha Karnani regarding how to support the demonstration mission of the school
- Focusing on Learning Showcases: developed an Observation Sheet to capture observations and questions; Board can use the sheet as well, to identify where the school is meeting its goals and where it can do better
- Discussion about inviting other community members to Showcases
- Shared Showcase program/handout to orient parents to the history and purpose of the Showcase

*(Aleta departed meeting after this Committee Update)*

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion:** The Board moved to approve the meeting minutes from November 9, 2022, with an amendment to the Demonstration Committee update: Replace "Committee has developed a working articulation of what ITDS is striving to demonstrate"

with " Committee has developed a working articulation of which aspects of the school's work ITDS will demonstrate in the coming year."

*Approved with amendment.*

**Committee Updates**

- **Academic Committee**

- DESSA and MOY MAP data shared by the staff with the Committee at its last meeting; progress toward goals is looking very promising
- Discussion of purpose of MAP and connection to PARCC, as well as how data is communicated to students
- Discussion about identifying the data points that matter
- Discussion around how to assess the experience students have at the school and how they are experiencing the 4 I's; there is an intersection between the Academic Committee and the Demonstration Committee
- **Executive Committee**
  - Working on strategic planning process
  - Next year officer positions need to be determined; Exec Comm will be reaching out to all Board members to solicit interest in officer roles
- **Nominations and Governance Committee**
  - Welcome again to Mary Pitts
  - Discussion of work with Education Board Partners and need to continue to build the pipeline for new Board members
  - Morris to lead a campaign for outreach directly to the school community
- **Finance & Business Oversight Committee**
  - HVAC expenses continue to be an area of frustration since 2018; ongoing work with Pepco and HVAC vendor to determine root cause of continued damage to equipment
  - Looking to renovate basement in summer 2024, \$3-4M is projected for that - we have been saving for this work
  - Investor call scheduled in the next few weeks for our bond holders

#### **Discussion of Strategic Planning Process**

- Pete Weber framed discussion regarding priorities and phases
- Pete will draft the full RFP in conjunction with Kate and ensure PCSB procurement compliance
- Pete will draft a strategic planning email for the community that Lucy will finalize and send
- Board members will need to plan to review proposals and make the recommendation for full Board approval of selection and contract
- Need to identify who will drive the process with the consultant

#### **Head of School updates:**

- **General Updates:**
  - Learning Showcase is tomorrow, please come
  - School Production Little Mermaid Junior, this Thursday - Sunday
  - 4th grade team focused on banned books during BLM Week of Action; coverage was picked up by PEN and by a Museum
  - COVID Mitigation - very few cases to report, no uptake after the Winter Break, masking and testing post breaks has been effective
- **Lottery Data:**
  - Deadline was March 1 – received 1,286 applications, 10% increase from last year; 46% ranked ITDS in top 3; 79 current students applied to another school (last year it was 96)

- Recruitment efforts this year included:
  - Some families may be shopping around after a COVID return year;
  - We engaged current families a bit more and intentionally informed them to what is happening at Middle School;
  - More focus on arts integration
  - Have more data on where students go to high school
  - Offered more Open Houses in person this year, with teachers engaging and doing tours
- Dr. Riggins is on the Revised Accountability Framework Taskforce
- Parent Engagement:
  - Ms. Hiltabidel hosted a Voices of Our Village session, to engage around recent issues in the headlines and the impact on students and families
  - IFA hosted a parent mixer on the same night of the Sneaker Ball
- Equity consultant hosted the last round of affinity groups last week; Report expected on March 20; Board interested in discussing at next Board Meeting
- Spring Giving - IFA working with school staff on this year's events:
  - Online auction will be in March
  - Lucy added that she hopes all Board members will make a donation that is meaningful to them; goal is 100% Board participation
- Phillips Collection partnership has returned – exhibit of student artwork is on Friday

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:11 pm.**